

Washington State



Historical Society

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUILDING
315 NORTH STADIUM WAY
TACOMA 3, WASHINGTON

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

Wesley Gardens
Des Moines, Washington
March 16, 1960

Mr. Bert Cole
Commissioner of Public Lands
Olympia, Washington

Dear Mr. Cole:

I am very much concerned over a story in the morning P-I, relative to "digging" up a time capsule 94 years ahead of time. I sincerely hope the story is in error in indicating that no one knows much about the Capsule. The Olympian of November 11 or 12, 1953, contained a large picture of the placing of the Capsule and story accompanying the event. I was the Director of the Centennial so am very familiar with what took place.

The location of the Capsule was to be temporary. Plans were drawn for rearrangement of the garden in the quad between the Capitol building and Temple of Justice. It was to cost \$5,000. Too much and the idea was lost in the shuffle, as the story indicates. Just planting the Capsule in another location and putting up a marker of some kind is not enough, in my opinion. That Capsule contains more 1953 information about Washington than will be found anywhere else in 2053. It will be invaluable then. Also, there is a second Capsule, smaller, which I took down, containing later Centennial material. The two Capsules were to be placed together.

I am coming to Olympia Tuesday, for an evening engagement, but will go early enough to call at your office. I am very anxious that these two Capsules receive the treatment they deserve and I am sure you will readily agree when you know the story back of them.

Yours very truly

Director Emeritus

Handwritten: I am coming to Olympia Tuesday, for an evening engagement, but will go early enough to call at your office.
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